1		2	3	4
2	C. Itoh & Co. Ltd., Japan	Reliance Industries Ltd. Bombay	To set up and operate oil refineries	2340.00
3	Mission Energy Co. California U.S.A.	Ashok Leyland Ltd., Madras	Oil refinery	3570.00
4	International Petroleum SA (BVI), Switzerland	..	Crudel Oil refinery	6000.00
5	Chandaria Group Geneva, Switzerland	Essar Investment Ltd., Bombay	Fo set up and operate an oil refinery	2620.00
6	C. P. Aquaculture Business Group Bangkok, Thailand	..	Shrimp Feed Mill, Processed Shrimps	3660.00
7	Enron Power Dev. Corap. Texas, U.S.A.	..	To set up a Power Project	14640.00
8	U.S.A. . . .	Spectrum Power Corpn. Ltd., A P.	Setup and operate a Natural Gas based combined cycle power Station of capacity of 200 MW	1198.34
9	Cogentrix Dev. Co., USA .	..	Set up own & operate pulverised coal fired power station of capacity of 1000 MW	2745.00
10	Caparo Group Ltd. (Dr. Swaraj Paul)	..	Hot Rolled Coils, Pig Iron	2700.00

Relief to small investors

@1476. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some instructions have been issued to Registrar of Companies to provide prompt and efficient service in certain matters like incorporation of companies, registration of documents and availability of inspection of records;

(b) if so, what are the details of such instructions with background for such move;

(c) whether these instructions will help the small investors in some way;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof with details of provisions to be made for strict compliance of these instructions;

(e) whether Government propose to provide some further relief to small investors in future; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) Some of the measures taken to provide prompt and efficient service, in the interest of investors, are as under:—

(i) Computer-printed Memorandum and Articles of Association will be acceptable by the Registrars for incorporation of companies, provided the same are neatly and legibly printed and comply with the other requirements of the Companies Act, 1956.

(ii) Regulation 17 of Companies Regulations, 1956 was amended w.e.f. 1-1-1993 under which the defective documents shall be taken on record by the Registrars, if no steps are taken by the company concerned to correct the documents

@Previously Unstarred Question 922, transferred from 3.8.93.

within 15 days from the date of issue of notice. This will enable a large number of pending defective documents being taken on record, which are open for inspection to the members of the public.

(iii) Registrars of Companies have been advised to take on record, the documents within a period of about 10 days, if the same are duly certified by a Company Secretary or Chartered Accountant, or Cost Accountant-in practice.

(iv) Revision of format of prospectus under Schedule-II of the Companies Act, 1956, providing for greater transparency about the affairs of a company and mandatory circulation of abridged prospectus with the application form.

(v) Recognition of 'stock-invest' instrument for payment of share application money.

(vi) Issue of letters of offer for rights shares to the share-holders by registered post, besides issue of refund orders/allotment letters/share certificates.

(vii) Ensuring that provisions relating to private placement of shares are not misused by the companies concerned, their promoters and intermediaries.

(viii) Ensuring that employees equity option to subscribe for equity capital of companies is strictly administered in their favour.

(e) and (f) Some of the measures proposed in the Companies Bill, 1993 to provide relief to investors are:—

(a) Simplification of the incorporation procedure by spelling out inherent powers to companies in the Act itself so that companies do not have to state these in the Memorandum of Association;

(b) providing for alteration of the objects clause of the Memorandum of Association of companies by way of a special resolution without need to seek confirmation from the Company Law Board;

(c) prescribing the format of Debenture Trust Deed and time limit for its execution, specifying the functions and duties of debenture-trustees and empowering the Company Law Board to take cognizance of cases of default in repayment of principal amount and interest to the debenture-holders;

(d) prohibiting companies, which have defaulted in repayment of fixed deposits or interest due thereon, from raising further deposits, as also banning inter-corporate loans and investments till the default is made good;

(e) providing for nomination facility for the depositor/share-holder/debenture-holder, in the event of death;

(f) establishing an Investors' Protection Fund by transferring the amount of unclaimed dividend remaining unpaid for 7 years, for the protection of the investors, in accordance with the rules prescribed for the purpose;

(g) exempting the requirement of endorsement on the share transfer deed where transactions are of nominal value;

(h) providing for free transferability of shares/debentures and restricting the right of companies to refuse transfer only on specified grounds;

(i) exempting private companies from the requirement of becoming deemed public companies on the basis of turnover and acceptance of deposits from public;

(j) strengthening the provisions relating to prospectus and requiring that the circular, pamphlet and advertisement issued, shall conform to the format of the abridged prospectus; and

(k) prescribing stringent penal provisions in the interest of investors' protection and for better mangement of companies.